## STATE SENATOR · GILDA Z. JACOBS · 14TH DISTRICT

## **Jacobs Press Release**

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## SEN. JACOBS PUSHES FOR WIDER AVAILABILITY OF DEFIBRILLATORS; ASTHMA INHALERS

Bills assure immediate response for health club members; children at camp

**LANSING** – Sen. Gilda Jacobs (D-Huntington Woods) is urging colleagues to support legislation that will require health clubs to employ at least one person trained in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) on site during health club business hours. The bill also requires that health clubs make automated external defibrillators available on the premises and that they develop and implement an emergency plan.

"These are popular and widely used facilities where people are physically exerting themselves," Jacobs said. "Since their primarily business is maintaining health, these facilities should also be prepared to provide adequate emergency response in the case of a health crisis."

A second bill would allow children to self-carry and self-administer their asthma inhalers and epinephrine injectors at camps. Epinephrine injectors are used in emergencies to protect individuals against severe, potentially life-threatening allergic reactions. An existing Michigan law allows children to carry and administer such medications in schools. This legislation expands that Act and is strongly supported by the Allergy & Asthma Network Mothers of Asthmatics who view the legislation as a life saving measure.

"These measures simply increase an individual's chances of survival by making life-saving measures more accessible." Jacobs said. "That's what it's all about --saving lives."

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State Senator Gilda Jacobs represents the 14<sup>th</sup> Senate District, which includes Farmington, Farmington Hills, Ferndale, Hazel Park, Huntington Woods, Lathrup Village, Oak Park, Pleasant Ridge, Royal Oak Township, and Southfield. She is the Minority Vice Chair of the Families & Human Services Committee and the Economic Development, Small Business & Regulatory Reform Committee. She also serves on the Government Operations and Health Policy Committees.